

Influenza

School Closure or Dismissal Reporting

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Education are requesting the cooperation of schools to notify federal agencies when schools are closed or operations compromised because of influenza activity. The federal monitoring system will be used to gauge the impact of influenza and determine federal response to this and similar events.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction and the Department of Public Health and Human Services have agreed on an approach to comply with the federal request with the least burden for schools and districts.

The school administrator will notify the county health officer by telephone or e-mail of the following:

- **name of school or school district**
- **Zip Code**
- **date of closure**
- **projected date of re-opening, if known.**

The county health office will submit the information to the school dismissal monitoring system at the Centers for Disease Control. A list of county health office contacts follows as the final page of these instructions.

For purposes of this situation the following information applies:

How do we know if absenteeism is related to flu?

Medically confirmed or suspected cases of influenza or self diagnosed influenza-like illness (ILI) qualify.

What is a school closure or dismissal?

1. A school with any of grades K-12 that dismissed all students (but not staff) for one or more days,
2. A school with any of grades K-12 that completely closed the entire building to all students and staff,
3. A school building that is closed for cleaning/sanitizing regardless of the presence of a confirmed or suspected case of influenza among students and staff.

Is this a district level or school level reporting system?

If the entire district is affected, only provide the name of the district. If a single or multiple schools are involved but not the entire district, provide information for each school.

How long will the school closure or dismissal monitoring system be in place?

At this point, for the 2009-2010 school year only.

For questions related to reporting procedures, contact your local county health department or Elton Mosher, 444-3165, emosher@mt.gov at the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

County Contacts

County	Disease Contact(s)	Title	Office
Beaverhead	Sue Hansen RN	PHN Director	683-4771
Big Horn	Ester Wynne RN	PHN-Pri	665-8720
	Frances Hodgson		
Blaine	RN	PHN	357-2345
Broadwater	Linda Campbell RN	PHN	266-5209 x4
Carbon	Sharyl McDowell	PHN	446-9941
Carter	Marion Kerr LPN	PHN	775-8738
Cascade	Trixie Smith RN	Disease Prevention	791-9269
Chouteau	Angel Johnson RN	PHN-Pri	622-3771
Custer	Lindsay Faber RN	PHN	874-3377
Daniels	Mary Nyhus RN	Public Health Nurse	783-5366
Dawson	Jeanne Seifert RN	Public Health Nurse	377-5213
Deer Lodge	Linda Best RN	Public Health Nurse	563-7863
Fallon	Misti Breitbach RN	PHN	778-2824
Fergus	Sue Woods	PHN-Pri	535-3983
Flathead	Boni Stout RN	Comm Hlth Director	751-8115
Gallatin	Stephanie Nelson	Health Officer	582-3146
Garfield	Sue Brown RN	PHN	485-2444
Glacier	Carol McDivitt RN	PHN-Pri	873-2924
Golden Valley	Sue Wood RN	PHN-Pri	535-3983
Granite	Michele Sare RN	PHN	288-0330
Hill	Danielle Golie RN	PHN-Pri	265-5481x266
Jefferson	Melissa Mixan RN	PHN-Pri	225-4007
Judith Basin	Sue Woods	PHN	535-3983
Lake	Emily Colomeda RN	PHN Director	883-7291
Lewis and Clark	Kay Robertson RN	PHN-Pri	457-8945
Liberty	Karla Kulpas	PHN	759-5517
Lincoln	Amy Smart	PHN	293-3374
McCone	Sue Good-Brown RN	PHN	485-2444
Madison	Jill-Marie Steeley	PH Admin	843-4295
Meagher	Kari Jo Kiff	PHN-Pri	547-3612
Mineral	Peggy Stevens RN	PHN-Pri	822-3564

Missoula	Brigid O'connor	PHN-Pri	258-3896
Musselshell	Sue Woods	rn	535-7466
Park	Suzanne Brown RN	PHN-Pri	222-4140
Petroleum	Sue Woods	rn	538-7466
	Mary L. Broadbrooks		
Phillips	RN	PHN	654-2521
Pondera	Cynthia Grubb RN	PHN	271-3247
Powder River	Darlynn Williams	PHN	436-2297
Powell	Nancy Nelson RN	PHN	846-2420
Prairie	Joan Hubber RN	PHN	635-2020
Ravalli	Judy Griffin RN	PHN-Pri	375-6675
Richland	Judy LaPan	Director	433-2207
Roosevelt	Bonnie Wemmer RN	clinic director	653-6227
Rosebud	Ginger Roll RN	PHN	346-2156
Sanders	Cindy Morgan RN	PHN-Pri	827-6925
Sheridan	Kathleen Jensen RN	PHN-Pri	765-3410
Silverbow-Butte	Karen Billson RN	PHN-Pri	497-5084
Stillwater	Jill Grim	PHN	322-5316x245
Sweet Grass	Carol Aure	PHN	932-5449
Teton	Lora Wier RN	PHN-Pri	466-2562
Toole	Karen Dobson RN	PHN	424-5169